

Appl. No. 10/812,562
Amd. Dated December 21, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Of pending claims 1-21, claims 1-21 are subject to a restriction requirement. Group I (claims 1-8) is drawn to an apparatus, Group II (claims 10-17) is drawn to a method, and Group III (claims 18-21) is drawn to a subcombination. The Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute Group I (claims 1-8) in the above-identified application.

The Applicants request clarification of the disposition of claim 9, which the Examiner has neglected to address. The Applicants would assume that claim 9 is a part of Group I, as claim 9 depends from claim 1, and claim 1 is a part of Group I. It is noted that the Applicants have not withdrawn claim 9 from consideration because the Applicants are not certain of the disposition of claim 9. However, if the Examiner believes that claim 9 is not a part of Group I, the Applicants will withdraw claim 9 from consideration.

Conclusion

The Applicants believe all the pending claims are in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned at (408) 868-4096.

Respectfully submitted,


Peggy A. Su
Reg. No. 41,336

Aka Chan LLP
900 Lafayette Street, Suite 710
Santa Clara, CA 95050
Tel: 408-701-0035
Fax: 408-608-1599